

**MINUTES
TOWN OF EDGEWOOD
BUDGET PREPARATION MEETING – MAY 10, 2008 @ 9:00 A.M.
EDGEWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER - #27 E. FRONTAGE ROAD**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Stearley called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. All councilors were present.

Also present were Ms. Mahalick, Manager, Planning & Zoning, and Ms. Dora Garcia, Accounting Assistant.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION: Councilor Simmons made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Felton seconded the motion.

VOTE: Councilor Abrams voted aye. Councilor Simons voted aye. Councilor Hill voted aye. Councilor Felton voted aye. The motion carried.

4. BUDGET PREPARATION.

- A. Animal Control.
- B. Regional Animal Control Shelter.
- C. Finance & Administration.
- D. Judicial.
- E. Legislative.
- F. Library.
- G. Parks & Recreation.
- H. I.C.I.P.
- I. Other Departments.

Chief Welch discussed his proposed budget and schedule beginning with six officers on staff, schedule including seven officers on staff. He also discussed hiring retired officers to fill in part time as a means to supplement the schedule and avoid “burnout” and overtime for full time officers.

Councilor Simmons inquired about the use of the Code Enforcement vehicle in order to keep an additional officer on the streets.

Chief Welch stated that he had verified that the Code Enforcement vehicle was adequately equipped to do so.

Councilor Felton stated that it is important to maintain the police force image, ensuring that the public is aware of their police presence.

Chief Welch stated that he was not concerned with jurisdictional issues in terms of emergency response and the Town of Edgewood officers will be cross commissioned with other counties in the area.

Chief Welch and Council discussed the issue of arresting and transporting the incarcerated and whether those fees would be at the Town of Edgewood's expense.

Mayor Stearley stated that employing seven officers for the police department would create a deficit of \$169,000.00 in the budget. He stated that Council would need to find a place to cut that amount in order to balance the budget.

Mayor Stearley discussed the budget for the YES program stating that he had allocated \$5,000.00 from the Town of Edgewood, which would be a contribution of 10%.

Mayor Stearley discussed the difference in the budget by lowering the number of full time officers and implementing the use of part time officers.

Ms. Mahalick discussed dust abatement and blading costs and the budget for these projects.

Mayor Stearley requested that a budget for dust abatement per mile and the cost for gravel and other materials needed for maintenance, be available for the next budget meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May, 14, 2008. He also requested a separate budget for the match to the Co-Op and match for MAP.

Ms. Mahalick stated that Council could assign no more then \$60,000.00 for dust abatement and \$40,000.00 for gravel leaving a 10% contingency to that amount. She also stated that the amount for rent and land could be removed because the road crew was moving to the Wastewater Treatment Facility site.

Ms. Mahalick requested a definition for Reserve.

Mayor Stearley stated that "reserves" was cash flow and that it is money that has not been spent but that is not allocated to other funds.

Ms. Myra Oden discussed money that may be available for rural infrastructure.

Mayor Stearley and Council discussed reducing the number of meetings that the Town of Edgewood Attorney was required to attend as a matter of reducing attorney costs.

Mayor Stearley suggested that the Code Enforcement position be reduced to part time. Council agreed.

Mayor Stearley and Council discussed the amount of money spent on office supplies. For budgeting purposes this amount was reduced to 12,750.00.

Council discussed the possibility of supplying laptops for council members as a means to reduce the amount of paper used.

Mayor Stearley and Council discussed mileage and per diem.

Mayor Stearley and Council discussed placing Ms. Estefanie Muller into a full Clerks salary. Council agreed at this time.

Mayor Stearley and Council discussed reducing the amount of patrolling done by Animal Control as a means of lowering costs for gas, oil and maintenance for vehicles.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CALENDAR REVIEW & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

J. Budget Preparation Meeting – May 14, 2008 @ 6:30 P.M.

- Complete Departments.
- Finish Budget.

6. ADJOURN.

MOTION: Councilor Simmons made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: All Councilors voted aye.

Mayor Stearley adjourned the meeting at 1:00 P.M.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of MAY, 2008.

Honorable Robert Stearley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Estefanie B. Muller, Acting Administrator Clerk-Treasurer